Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 03463 080953Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 SIL-01 LAB-04 AID-05 /040 W

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R 080917Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3249

UNCLAS SINGAPORE 3463

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, ELAB

SUBJ: IV GRANTS FOR FOREIGN LABOR LEADERS

REF: STATE 170384

- 1. WE WELCOME CLOSE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN US AND SINGAPORE LABOR LEADERS AND BELIEVE THIS IS APPROPRIATE TIME FOR DIRECT UNION-TO-UNION TIES TO TAKE HOLD. NTUC IS LIKELY TO SEND DELEGATE TO ICFTU MEETING IN MEXICO AND MAY SEE ITS WAY CLEAR TO SENDING REPRESENTATIVE TO BIENNIAL AFL-CIO CONVENTION.
- 2. ALMOST ALL OF TOP LEADERSHIP IN SINGAPORE NATIONAL TRADES UNION CONGRESS, INCLUDING SECRETARY-GENERAL DEVAN NAIR, HAVE BEEN IV GRANTEES. THEREFORE, EMBASSY HAS NOT RPT NOT MADE PRIVISION FOR LABOR LEADERS IN FY-76 CPP, MOSTLY BECAUSE OF VERY HEAVY EMPHASIS IN PAST.
- 3. IF THESE CONFERENCES HIGH ON NTUC LIST OF PRIORITIES, NTUC WILL PAY FOR SOMEONE TO ATTEND AND THEREFORE OBVIATE NEED FOR EMBASSY TO COMMIT FUNDS. ALTERNATIVELY, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO EXPLAIN SITUATION TO AFL-CIO AND SUGGEST IT ENCOURAGE, AND IF NECESSARY, SUBSIDIZE NTUC PARTICIPATION. HOLDRIDGE

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